## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method is provided for the packaging of a nucleic acid with a chelating agent having a coordinating moiety linked to a central hydrophobic moiety that terminates in a hydrophilic moiety. The complex is well suited for oral and other forms of therapeutic administration of nucleic acids in order to exact systemic and/or localized gene delivery therapy. Intestinal epithelial cells, as well as non-epithelial cells within the gastrointestinal tract and other target cells, are transformed for short or long-term therapies through oral administration, direct injection, or infusive administrations. A nucleic acid conjugating agent particulate composition amenable for administration as a gene therapy composition is provided. The composition is readily adjusted to create a particle having a controlled size and net-zero, -positive, or -negative charge.